(d) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

(e) Sale turn over of the drugs is not monitored by this Department.

(f) The price of Ethambutol bluk drug has been revised as per recommendation of BICP.

Price control on Naproxen

1997. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 470 given in the Rajya Sabha on 5th September, 1988 and state:

(a) what are the ground and criteria fulfilled by Naproxen for price decontrol out of five exclusive criteria as laid down by Kelkar Committee;

(b) whether it is a fact that the sales turnover of this would be more than Rs. 50 lacs per annum when its imports per annum is of Rs. 204 lacs;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this drug is not produced in the country; and

(d) whether Kelkar Committee has included it under price control in its supplementary report and if not, what are the reasons and what were the considered views of the experts?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (d) Various representations received by the Government against the recommendations of the Kelkar Committee were forwarded to the Committee. The supplementary report submitted by the Committee is under examinations.

(b) Sales turn over is not monitored.

(c) No, Sir.

Revision of Rieampicin prices

1998. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) when was the application for fixation of price of Rifampicin 600 mg/Capsules received from the major producers by his Ministry or the BICP;

(b) what happened to this application and when was the price fixed for the first time and how often and when it has been revised;

(c) what is the amount over-charged by the producers and what steps have been taken to recover the amount; and

(d) what steps have been taken to fix the responsibility for not fixing the price of Rifampicin + INH + Vitamin B6 and allowing overcharging of prices?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) A ceiling price of Rs. 9.50 has been fixed for 3's pack of Rifampicin 600 mg capsules, under DPCO, 1987. Details of prices fixed under DPCO, 1979, if any are not readily available.

(d) A price of Rs. 104.21 has already been fixed for 4x10's strip of Rifamexp capsules produced by M/s. Mercury Labs. under DPCO, 1987.

Overages on Rifampicin

1999. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the leader prices of Rifampicin formulations as fixed by the Government contain overages at five per cent;

(b) whether it is also a fact that actually no overages are used by the producers of the formulation;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for giving benefit to drug companies at the cost of poor TB patients;

(d) what steps have been taken to fix the responsibility at the level of the Ministry or the BICP;

(e) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has not reduced the prices of both single and in combination of formulations based on the reduced price of Rifampicin; and